

Abbas Askar

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Date of Birth: 1987-08-31, ORCID: [0000-0001-9688-3458](https://orcid.org/0000-0001-9688-3458), [LU Webpage](#)

Professional Appointments & Experience

Lund Observatory, Department of Astronomy and Theoretical Physics
Postdoctoral Researcher

Lund University (Sweden)
01/06/2020–31/05/2022

Lund Observatory, Department of Astronomy and Theoretical Physics
Carl Tryggers Postdoctoral Fellow (2018–2020)

Lund University (Sweden)
13/06/2018–31/05/2020

Nicolaus Copernicus Astronomical Center, Polish Academy of Sciences
Graduate Student/Research Assistant

Warsaw (Poland)
04/11/2013–25/05/2018

Education

Nicolaus Copernicus Astronomical Center, Polish Academy of Sciences, Warsaw (Poland)

• **PhD in Astronomy (with distinction)**

04/11/2013–25/05/2018

Thesis: "Investigation of Black Hole Populations in Dense Stellar Systems using [MOCCA code](#) for Star Cluster Simulations"

Supervisor: Prof Mirek Giersz

University of Innsbruck (Austria), University of Padova (Italy) & University of Belgrade (Serbia)

• **Master of Science in Astronomy & Astrophysics**

04/10/2010–27/09/2012

Astromundus: Erasmus Mundus Joint Masters Degree

Master Thesis: "Optical Counterparts of Ultraluminous X-ray Sources"

Supervisor: Dr Luca Zampieri (INAF - Padova)

University College Utrecht, Utrecht University (The Netherlands)

• **Bachelor of Science (Honors) and Bachelor of Arts (Honors) in Liberal Arts & Sciences**

2006–2009

Double Major in Physical Sciences (Physics & Mathematics) and Humanities (Philosophy & Religious Studies)

Bachelor Thesis (Science): "Peculiar Features in the Onsets of Thermonuclear Flashes on Neutron Stars"

Supervisor: Dr. Jean in't Zand (HEA, SRON Netherlands Institute for Space Research)

Bachelor Thesis (Humanities): "The Problem of Redemptive Truth: From Nietzsche to a Post-Metaphysical Culture"

Supervisor: Dr. Floris van der Burg (University College Utrecht, Utrecht University)

Publications in peer-reviewed scientific journals

28 Publications (12 as first or second author) with 1561 citations (excluding self-citations)

H-index of 18 (Taken from NASA ADS on 5/Oct/2021). These publications have been listed in reverse chronological order below and can also be found viewed on [NASA ADS service](#).

1. F. Aros, A. C. Sippel, A. Mastrobuono-Battisti, P. Bianchini, **A. Askar** and G. van de Ven: *Using Binaries in Globular Clusters to Catch Sight of Intermediate-Mass Black Holes*. *MNRAS*, Accepted for Publication (2021). [\[ADS Link\]](#)
2. **A. Askar**, M. B. Davies and R. P. Church: *Formation of super-massive black holes in galactic nuclei I: delivering seed intermediate-mass black holes in massive stellar clusters*. *MNRAS*, Vol. 502, Issue 2, pp.2682–2700 (2021). [\[ADS Link\]](#)
3. F. Aros, A. C. Sippel, A. Mastrobuono-Battisti, **A. Askar**, P. Bianchini and G. van de Ven: *Dynamical modelling of globular clusters: challenges for the robust determination of IMBH candidates*. *MNRAS*, Vol. 499, Issue 4, pp.4646–4665 (2020). [\[ADS Link\]](#)
4. J. Hong, **A. Askar**, M. Giersz, A. Hypki and S. Yoon: *MOCCA-SURVEY Database I: Binary black hole mergers from globular clusters with intermediate mass black holes*. *MNRAS*, Vol. 498, Issue 3, pp.4287–4294 (2020). [\[ADS Link\]](#)
5. J. Samsing, D. J D'Orazio, K. Kremer, C. L. Rodriguez and **A. Askar**: *Single-single gravitational-wave captures in globular clusters: Eccentric deci-Hertz sources observable by DECIGO and Tian-Qin*. *Physical Review D*, Vol. 101, Issue 12, article id.123010 (2020). [\[ADS Link\]](#)
6. K. Belczynski, J. Klencki, C. E. Fields, A. Olejak, E. Berti, G. Meynet, C. L. Fryer, D. Holz, R. O'Shaughnessy, D. A. Brown, T. Bulik, S. Leung, K. Nomoto, P. Madau, R. Hirschi, S. Jones, S. Mondal, M. Chruslinska, P. Drozda, D. Gerosa, Z. Doctor, M. Giersz, S. Ekstrom, C. Georgy, **A. Askar**, V. Baibhav, D. Wysocki, T. Natan, W. M. Farr, G. Wiktorowicz, Miller, M. Coleman, B. Farr and J.P. Lasota: *The evolutionary roads leading to low effective spins*,

- high black hole masses, and O1/O2 rates of LIGO/Virgo binary black holes. *A&A*, Vol. 636, id.A104, 40 pp. (2020). [\[ADS Link\]](#)
7. B. Giesers, S. Kamann, S. Dreizler, T. Husser, **A. Askar**, F. Göttgens, J. Brinchmann, M. Latour, P. M. Weilbacher, M. Wendt and M. M. Roth: *A stellar census in globular clusters with MUSE: Binaries in NGC 3201*. *A&A*, Vol. 632, id.A3, 20 pp. (2019). [\[ADS Link\]](#)
 8. M. Giersz, **A. Askar**, L. Wang, A. Hypki, A. Leveque and R. Spurzem: *MOCCA-SURVEY database I. Dissolution of tidally filling star – clusters harbouring black hole subsystems*. *MNRAS*, Vol. 487, Issue 2, p.2412-2423 (2019). [\[ADS Link\]](#)
 9. A. Askar, **A. Askar**, M. Pasquato and M. Giersz.: *Finding Black Holes with Black Boxes Using Machine Learning to Identify Globular Clusters with Black Hole Subsystems*. *MNRAS*, Vol. 485, Issue 4, p.5345-5362 (2019). [\[ADS Link\]](#) and [\[Github Page\]](#)
 10. B. Leor, V. Cardoso, S. Nissanke, T. P. Sotiriou, **A. Askar**, K. Belczynski, G. Bertone, E. Bon and 194 coauthors. *Black holes, gravitational waves and fundamental physics: a roadmap Classical and Quantum Gravity* Vol. 36, 14, article id. 143001 (2019). [\[ADS Link\]](#). Contributor for chapter I.5 in this **review paper**.
 11. D. Belloni, M. Giersz, L.E. Rivera Sandoval, **A. Askar** and P. Ciecielag: *MOCCA-SURVEY database I. Accreting white dwarf binary systems in globular clusters – IV. cataclysmic variables – properties of bright and faint populations*. *MNRAS*, Vol. 483, Issue 1, p.315-331 (2019). [\[ADS Link\]](#)
 12. J. Morawski, M. Giersz, **A. Askar**, and K. Belczynski: *MOCCA-SURVEY Database I: Assessing GW kick retention fractions for BH-BH mergers in globular clusters*. *MNRAS*, Vol. 481, Issue 2, p.2168-2179 (2018). [\[ADS Link\]](#)
 13. J. Hong, E. Vesperini, **A. Askar**, M. Giersz, and M. Szkudlarek: *Binary Black Hole Mergers from Globular Clusters: the Impact of Globular Cluster Properties..* *MNRAS* Vol. 480, Issue 4, p.5645-5656 (2018). [\[ADS Link\]](#)
 14. M. Arca-Sedda, **A. Askar**, and M. Giersz: *MOCCA-SURVEY Database I. Unravelling black hole subsystems in globular clusters*. *MNRAS* Vol. 479, Issue 4, p.4652-4664 (2018). [\[ADS Link\]](#)
 15. **A. Askar**, M. Arca-Sedda, and M. Giersz: *MOCCA-SURVEY Database I: Galactic Globular Clusters Harboring a Black Hole Subsystem*. *MNRAS* Vol. 478, Issue 2, p.1844-1854 (2018). [\[ADS Link\]](#)
 16. K. Belczynski, **A. Askar**, M. Arca-Sedda, M. Chruslinska, M. Donnari, M. Giersz, M. Benacquista, R. Spurzem, D. Jin, G. Wiktorowicz and D. Belloni: *The The origin of the first neutron star – neutron star merger*. *A&A*, Vol. 615, id.A91, 13 pp (2018). [\[ADS Link\]](#)
 17. **A. Askar**, M. Giersz, W. Pych and E. Dalessandro: *COCOA code for creating mock observations of star cluster models*. *MNRAS* Vol 475, Issue 3, p.4170-4185 (2017). [\[ADS Link\]](#) and [\[Github Page\]](#)
 18. J. Samsing, **A. Askar** and M. Giersz: *MOCCA-SURVEY Database I: Eccentric Black Hole Mergers During Binary-Single Interactions In Globular Clusters*. *ApJ* Vol. 855, 2, article id. 124, 5 pp.(2018). [\[ADS Link\]](#)
 19. J. Hong, R. de Grijs , **A. Askar**, P. Berczik, C. Li, L. Wang, L. Deng, M. B. N. Kouwenhoven, M. Giersz and M., R. Spurzem: *The dynamical origin of multiple populations in intermediate-age clusters in the Magellanic clouds*. *MNRAS* Vol 472, 1, p.67-77(2017). [\[ADS Link\]](#)
 20. D. Belloni, **A. Askar**, M. Giersz, P. Kroupa & H.J, Rocha-Pinto: *On the initial binary population for star cluster simulations*. *MNRAS* Vol 471, 3, p.2812-2828 (2017). [\[ADS Link\]](#)
 21. D.Belloni, M. Zorotvic, M. Schreiber, N.W.C Leigh, M. Giersz and **A. Askar**: *MOCCA-SURVEY database I. Accreting white dwarf binary systems in globular clusters – III. Cataclysmic variables – Implications of model assumptions*. *MNRAS* 2017 Vol. 468, 2, p.2429-2446 (2017). [\[ADS Link\]](#)
 22. R.d. Vita, M. Trenti, P. Bianchini, **A. Askar**, M. Giersz and G. van de Ven: *Prospects for detection of intermediate-mass black holes in globular clusters using integrated-light spectroscopy*. *MNRAS* Vol. 467, 4, p.4057-4066 (2017). [\[ADS Link\]](#)
 23. D. Belloni, M. Giersz, H.J, Rocha-Pinto, N.W.C Leigh, **A. Askar**: *MOCCA-SURVEY database I. Accreting white dwarf binary systems in globular clusters - II. Cataclysmic variables - progenitors and population at birth*. *MNRAS* Vol 464, 4, p.4077-4095 (2017). [\[ADS Link\]](#)
 24. **A. Askar**, M. Szkudlarek, D.Gondek-Rosińska, M. Giersz and T. Bulik: *MOCCA-SURVEY Database - I. Coalescing binary black holes originating from globular clusters*. *MNRAS Letters* Vol. 464, p.L36-L40 (2017). [\[ADS Link\]](#)
 25. **A. Askar**, P. Bianchini, R.d. Vita, M. Giersz, A. Hypki and S. Kamann: *MOCCA-SURVEY Database I: Is NGC 6535 a dark star cluster harbouring an IMBH?* *MNRAS* Vol 464,3, p.3090-3100 (2017). [\[ADS Link\]](#)
 26. D. Belloni, M. Giersz, **A. Askar**, N.W.C Leigh and A.Hypki: *MOCCA-SURVEY database I. Accreting white dwarf binary systems in globular clusters - I. Cataclysmic variables - present-day population*. *MNRAS* Vol. 462, 3, p.2950-2969 (2016). [\[ADS Link\]](#)

27. L. Wang, R. Spurzem, S. Aarseth, M. Giersz, **A. Askar**, P. Berczik, T. Naab, R. Schadow and M. B. N. Kouwenhoven: *The DRAGON simulations: globular cluster evolution with a million stars*. MNRAS Vol. 458, 2, p.1450-1465 (2016). [\[ADS Link\]](#)
28. M. Giersz, N. Leigh, A. Hypki, N. Lützgendorf and **A. Askar**: *MOCCA code for star cluster simulations - IV. A new scenario for intermediate mass black hole formation in globular clusters*. MNRAS Vol. 454, 3, p.3150-3165 (2015). [\[ADS Link\]](#)

Selected published conference proceedings

1. M. B. Davies, **A. Askar**, R.P. Church: *The Ecology of the Galactic Centre: Nuclear Stellar Clusters and Supermassive Black Holes*, IAU Symposium, Volume 315 (2020). [\[ADS Link\]](#)
2. **A. Askar**, M. Giersz, , M. Arca Sedda, A. Askar, M. Pasquato, A. Leveque *Stellar-Mass Black Holes in Globular Clusters: Dynamical Consequences and Observational Signatures*, IAU Symposium, Volume 315 (2020). [\[ADS Link\]](#)
3. D. Belloni, M. Giersz, L.E. Rivera Sandoval, **A. Askar**, P. Ciecielag: *Are most Cataclysmic Variables in Globular Clusters dynamically formed?*, IAU Symposium, Volume 315 (2020). [\[ADS Link\]](#)
4. M. Giersz, **A. Askar**, L. Wang, A. Hypki, A. Leveque, R. Spurzem: *MOCCA-SURVEY database I. Dissolution of tidally filling star – clusters harbouring black hole subsystems*, IAU Symposium, Volume 315 (2020). [\[ADS Link\]](#)
5. A. Hypki, M. Giersz, **A. Askar**, D. Belloni, A. Leveque: *BEANS – distributed data analysis for numerical simulations*, IAU Symposium, Volume 315 (2020). [\[ADS Link\]](#)
6. M. Giersz, **A. Askar**, J. Klencki, J. Morawski *MOCCA Survey Database I. BHs in star clusters* (Proceedings of the 15th Marcel Grossmann Meeting in Rome (2018)). [\[ADS Link\]](#)
7. M. Szkudlarek, D. Gondek-Rosińska, **A. Askar**, T. Bulik, M. Giersz: *Black Hole Binaries from Globular Clusters as Sources of Gravitational Waves* (52nd Rencontres de Moriond on Gravitation (Moriond Gravitation 2017)). [\[INSPIRE Link\]](#)
8. M. Giersz, N. Leigh, A. Hypki, **A. Askar**, N. Lützgendorf: *Formation mechanisms of IMBH in globular clusters* (MmSAI v.87, p.555 2016). [\[ADS Link\]](#)
9. D. Belloni, M. Giersz, **A. Askar**, Hypki: *Cataclysmic variables in globular clusters . First results on the analysis of the MOCCA simulations database* (MmSAI v.87, p.551 2016). [\[ADS Link\]](#)
10. **A. Askar**, M. Giersz, W. Pych, A. Olech, A. Hypki: *MOCCA code for star cluster simulation: comparison with optical observations using COCOA* (IAU Symposium, Volume 312, pp. 262-263 2016). [\[ADS Link\]](#)
11. M. Giersz, N. Leigh, M. Marks, A. Hypki, **A. Askar**: *Monte Carlo modeling of globular star clusters: many primordial binaries and IMBH formation* (IAU Symposium, Volume 312, pp. 213-222 2016). [\[ADS Link\]](#)

Selected Talks/Presentations at International Conferences & Institutes

- Talk on “*Formation and growth of supermassive black holes in galactic nuclei: intermediate-mass black holes delivered in stellar clusters*” at European Astronomical Society (EAS) Annual Meeting (Leiden, The Netherlands/Virtual Meeting 2021)
- Invited Seminar on “*Formation and growth of supermassive black holes in galactic nuclei: intermediate-mass black holes delivered in stellar clusters*” at International Teeminar, Organized by ARI Heidelberg/Beijing (2021)
- Talk on “*Formation and growth of supermassive black holes in galactic nuclei: LISA binaries & intermediate-mass ratio inspirals*” at 3rd LISA Astrophysics Working Group Meeting (Zurich, Switzerland/Virtual Meeting 2021)
- Invited Seminar Talk on “*Black Hole Dynamics in Star Clusters: Evolution and Growth from Stellar to Supermassive Scales*” at the CENTRA - Center for Astrophysics and Gravitation (Lisbon, Portugal, 2021)
- Talk on “*Formation and Growth of Supermassive Black Holes in Galactic Nuclei: Dynamics of Triple Intermediate-mass Black Holes Delivered in Stellar Clusters*” at the Triple Evolution and Dynamics 3 (TRENDY 3 - Virtual Meeting 2021)
- Invited Seminar on “*Formation of gravitational wave sources in star clusters: From stellar to intermediate-mass black holes*” at University of Birmingham (Birmingham, United Kingdom 2020).
- Invited Talk on “*Dynamical formation of gravitational wave sources*” at XIX Serbian Astronomical Conference (Belgrade, Serbia 2020).
- Talk on “*Formation of supermassive black holes in galactic nuclei: delivering seed intermediate-mass black holes in stellar clusters*” at Galaxy Coffee, Max Planck Institute for Astronomy, MPIA (Heidelberg, Germany 2020).
- Talk on “*Formation of intermediate-mass black holes in dense stellar clusters*” at the 13th International LISA Symposium (Virtual Meeting 2020)
- Invited Review Talk on “*Dynamical Formation of Binary Black Holes in Dense Stellar Environments*” at European Astronomical Society (EAS) Annual Meeting 2020, Symposium 5: *What have we learned from the observed population*

of gravitational wave sources? (Leiden, The Netherlands/Virtual Meeting 2020)

- Talk on *"Supermassive Black Hole Formation in Galactic Nuclei: The Role of Intermediate-mass Black Holes"* at Compact Objects For All Meeting at Lund Observatory, Department of Astronomy and Theoretical Physics, Lund University (Lund, Sweden 2020)
- Invited Talk on *"Gravitational Wave Sources Originating in Globular Clusters"* at DKGWEM-2020: Gravitational Wave Science in Denmark, Niels Bohr Institute, Copenhagen University (Copenhagen, Denmark 2020)
- Talk on *"Stellar Mass Black Holes in Globular Clusters: Dynamical Consequences and Observational Signatures"* at Galaxy Coffee, Max Planck Institute for Astronomy, MPIA (Heidelberg, Germany 2019).
- Invited Talk on *"Dynamically Driven Mergers of Black Holes in Dense Stellar Environments"* at Astrophysics with Gravitational Wave Detections Workshop (Warsaw, Poland 2019).
- Talk on *"Why Black Holes Matter in Globular Clusters: Dynamical Consequences and Observational Signatures"* at IAUS 351: Star Clusters: from the Milky Way to the Early Universe and MODEST 19 (Bologna, Italy 2019).
- Talk on "How black holes can influence the evolution of globular clusters" at the MWStreams 2018 conference on "Survival of Dense Star Clusters in the Milky Way System" (Heidelberg, Germany 2018)
- Invited Talk on *"Black Hole Populations in Galactic Globular Clusters"* at the SFB 881 International Workshop on Star "Clusters around the Milky Way and in the Local Group" (Heidelberg, Germany 2018)
- Invited to attended meeting of the "Evolution of Rich Stellar Populations & Black Hole Binaries" International Space Science Institute (ISSI) Team as a core participant and presented a talk on *"Black Hole Subsystems in Galactic Globular Clusters"* at the ISSI (Bern, Switzerland 2018).
- Talk on *"Black Hole Subsystems in Galactic Globular Clusters"* at MODEST 18 (Santorini, Greece 2018).
- Invited Seminar Talk on *"Investigating Black Hole Populations in Globular Clusters with MOCCA Code for Star Cluster Simulations"* at Galileo Galilei Department of Physics and Astronomy, University of Padova/INAF-Astronomical Observatory of Padova (Padova, Italy 2018).
- Invited Seminar Talk on *"Investigating Black Hole Populations in Globular Clusters with MOCCA Code for Star Cluster Simulations"* at Eötvös Loránd University (Budapest, Hungary 2018).
- Talk on *"MOCCA-Survey Database I: Binary Black Holes and Intermediate Mass Black Holes in Globular Clusters"* at Numerical Scattering Workshop, Center for Computational Astrophysics, Flatiron Institute, (New York City, USA 2017).
- Talk on *"Gravitational Waves and High Energy Sources Originating From Globular Clusters"* at MODEST 17 (Prague, Czech Republic 2017).
- Invited Seminar Talk on *"MOCCA-Survey Database I: Binary Black Holes and Intermediate Mass Black Holes in Globular Clusters"* at Lund Observatory Seminar (Lund, Sweden 2017).
- Seminar Talk on *"MOCCA-Survey Database I: Binary Black Holes and Intermediate Mass Black Holes in Globular Clusters"* at Nicolaus Copernicus Center Wednesday Colloquium (Warsaw, Poland 2017).
- Talk on *"Coalescing Binary Black Holes Originating from Globular Clusters"* at Heraeus-Seminar 61: Stellar Aggregates (Bad Honnef, Germany 2016).
- Invited Seminar Talk on *"MOCCA-Survey Database I: Binary Black Holes and Intermediate Mass Black Holes in Globular Clusters"* at KIAA/Peking University Lunch Talk (Beijing, China 2016).
- Invited Talk on *"Merging Binary Black Holes Originating from Globular Clusters"* at Astro-GR 2016 Meeting (Benasque, Spain 2016).
- Presented poster on *"Simulating Observations of MOCCA Star Cluster Simulations with COCOA"* at EES 2015 School on Stellar Clusters (Banyuls sur Mer, France 2015).
- Talk on *"Simulating Observations of MOCCA Star Cluster Simulations with COCOA"* at MODEST 15 (Concepcion, Chile 2015).
- Poster presentation, *"MOCCA Code for Star Cluster Simulations: Comparison with Optical Observations using COCOA"* at International Conference of Young Astronomers (Toruń, Poland 2014).
- Talk on *"X-ray Bursts"* at the 5th Serbian Astronomical Student Workshop hosted by University of Belgrade and University of Novi-Sad (Belgrade, Serbia 2011).

Supervision, Mentoring & Teaching Activities

- Gave a 2 hour lecture on "Black holes in stellar clusters" in the 'ASTM12 - High Energy Astrophysics' masters course at Lund Observatory (Spring 2021) and did a 2 hour follow up class with group exercises and discussion.
- Led lecture on "Astrophysical Origin of Gravitational Wave Sources" for the 'Topics on Theoretical Astrophysics' PhD course at Lund Observatory (Spring 2021)
- Master thesis supervisor of Markus Strickert (Master student at Lund University 2021-2022) and Lucas Hellström (Master student at Lund University 2019-2020, now PhD student at CAMK, Warsaw).
- Completed course on "Learning and teaching in higher education - theory and practice" for pedagogical training (Lund University, Spring 2020)

- Gave a 2 hour lecture on “Neutron stars, pulsars and compact binaries” for the ‘ASTM12 - High Energy Astrophysics’ masters course at Lund Observatory (Spring 2019)
- Co-supervised summer student projects at Nicolaus Copernicus Astronomical Center (Poland):
 - Jakub Morawski (2017 Bachelor Student, Warsaw Observatory)
 - Piotr Kołodziejcki (2016 Bachelor Student, Warsaw Observatory)
 - Jakub Klencki (2016 Master Student, Warsaw Observatory)
 - Piotr Adamczyk (2015 Bachelor Student, Warsaw Observatory)
 - Magdalena Szponar (2015 Bachelor Student, Warsaw Observatory)
- Co-supervised and assisted with Masters thesis project of Riko Schadow (Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich, 2015) and research project by Arthur Kuehlwein (Heidelberg University, 2015)

Prizes & Awards

- Awarded Carl Tryggers Postdoctoral Fellowship (2018 to 2020)
- PhD Scholarship in Stellar Dynamics, National Science Center, Poland (2013 to 2017)
- Preludium grant for PhD Students awarded by the Polish National Science Center (NCN) in 2016
- Award for Best Poster at International Conference of Young Astronomers (Toruń, Poland 2014)
- Erasmus Mundus (European Commission) Scholarship for Joint Masters Degree in Astrophysics and Astronomy (2010 to 2012) Total Award: €15,000
- Excellence Scholarship for Undergraduate Studies at University College Utrecht (2006-2009)
Total Award: ~ € 21,000
- Merit Scholarship for A Levels at University College Lahore (2004-2006)
- Award for Excellence in Computing, University College Lahore (2005)
- Award for Academic Excellence, Bloomfield Hall School (2001)

Funding & Grants

- Principal Investigator (PI) of the Fysiografen grant awarded by the Royal Physiographic Society of Lund (2019 to 2020); Title: *Evolution of Binaries containing Massive Stars* ; Total Funding: €13,450
- Carl Tryggers Fellowship for postdoctoral research awarded by the Carl Tryggers Foundation for Scientific Research in Sweden (2018 to 2020) Total Funding: €52,500
- PI of the Preludium grant for PhD students awarded by the Polish National Science Center (2016 to 2018)
Title: *Black Hole Binary Zoo in Globular Clusters* Total Funding: €15,750
- PI of the Nicolaus Copernicus Astronomical Center Grant for Young Researchers (2015 to 2017)
Title: *Simulating Mock Observations of Star Cluster Simulations* Total Funding: €3000

Professional Memberships, Service Work and Meeting Organization

- Junior Member of the International Astronomical Union (IAU) since 2019: [\[IAU Page\]](#)
- Member of the LISA (Laser Interferometer Space Antenna) consortium and its astrophysics working group since 2018
- Expert reviewer for the following journals: Monthly Notices of Royal Astronomical Society (MNRAS), The Astrophysical Journal (ApJ), ApJ Letters, Astronomy & Astrophysics (A&A), Acta Astronomica
- Organizer and chair for the ‘Stellar Dynamics and Evolution’ group meetings at Lund Observatory since 2021
- Examination committee member for master and bachelor student exams at Lund Observatory (2019, 2020, 2021)
- Member of the local and scientific organizing committees for ELTs for All meeting at Lund Observatory in Sweden (11 to 12 February, 2019)
- Expert reviewer for grant proposals submitted to National Fund for Scientific and Technological Development (FONDECYT) of Chile (2019)
- Member of LOC for Spotkanie Młodych (Young Astronomers Meeting) at Nicolaus Copernicus Astronomical Center (2014 and 2016)

Popular Talks and Public Lectures

- Presented public talk on “*Simulating Star Clusters: Dynamical Evolution to Merging Black Holes*” at Kulturnatten (Culture Night) 2019 at Lund Observatory, Sweden (2019).
- Presented public talk on “*Cosmic Explosions: From Supernovae to Colliding Black Holes*” at Knut Lundmark-dagarna 2019 at Lund Observatory, Sweden (2019).
- Presented public talk (for high school students) on “*Merging Black Holes in Star Clusters: The New Era of Gravitational Wave Astrophysics*” at NMT Dagarna at Lund Observatory, Sweden (2019).

- Presented public talk on “*Astrophysics of Star Clusters*” at Monthly Meeting of Lahore Astronomical Society (LAST) hosted at Zeds Astronomical Observatory, Lahore, Pakistan (2019).
- Invited Popular Talk on “*Binary Black Holes and Intermediate Mass Black Holes in Globular Clusters*” at Koło Naukowe Astronomów (Student's Astronomy Circle), University of Warsaw Observatory, Poland (2017).
- Presented popular talks on 'Evolution of Star Clusters' at Spotkanie Młodych (Young Astronomers Meeting), Nicolaus Copernicus Astronomical Center (2014 and 2016).

Scientific Programming and Open Source Tools

Member of the development team of the [MOCCA code](#) for star cluster simulations since 2013.

Open Source Development (2016–Present):

- Led the development of the *COCOA* code (written in *Python* & *C*): [\[Github Page\]](#) & [\[ASCL Entry\]](#)
- Contributed by fixing bugs and improving *NBODY6++GPU* code (GPU accelerated direct *N*-body code for collisional stellar dynamics): [\[Github Page\]](#)
- Co-developed interactive *Jupyter* notebook that uses a supervised machine learning algorithm to use observational properties of a star cluster to predict how many black holes it may contain: [\[Github Page\]](#)

Skills & Miscellaneous

Computer Languages: Proficient in *Python*, *Fortran*, *Shell Scripting*, \LaTeX . Fairly decent with *C* and basic experience with *R*, *Apache Pig*, *C++*, *HTML*.

Data Visualization: Proficient with *gnuplot*, *matplotlib* (and other Python visualization libraries e.g., *seaborn*). Fairly decent with *TikZ*, *matcha*

Software: Proficient with *Mathematica*, *TOPCAT* and experience with *MATLAB*. Very experienced in using popular presentation, word processing and spreadsheet programs. Experienced in using *Git* for tracking software updates. Basic experience with *PSPP*

Graphic Design/Vector Graphics: Fairly decent with *Inkscape* and *GIMP* (Vector Graphics Editors)

Languages: English (Fluent), Urdu (Native), Dutch (Beginner Level), Punjabi (Intermediate Level)

Other Activities

- Assembled and setup muon detectors at University College Utrecht (Part of HiSparc project)
- Junior Advisor at University College Utrecht (2007-2008)
- Represented University College Lahore in many nationwide quiz competitions (2001 to 2006)
- Member of University College Lahore debating team in All-Pakistan parliamentary style debates at Under 17 & Under 19 Level between 2001 & 2006